

[25 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

As per sixth All India Educational Survey (1993) 83.73% primary schools and 89.30% upper primary schools had pucca and partly pucca buildings. However, 34.60% primary sections were found to be deficient in black boards.

Under the Scheme of Operation Blackboard (OB), 1.82 lakhs classrooms have been constructed and financial assistance for Teaching Learning Equipment (TLE) including black boards has been provided to 5,22,902 primary schools and to 127,257 upper primary schools.

District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) is currently in operation in 219 districts in 15 States. It provides for improvement of physical infrastructure facilities and manpower resources in primary school. Under this programme 8,000 formal school have been added and another 15,000 are in pipeline. 38,000 alternative schooling centres of various kinds have been set up and about 75,000 more are planned. A new scheme Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has now been proposed to achieve holistic convergence of all schemes/programmes of elementary education to provide education to all children in the age group of 6.14 years by the year 2010.

Development of coaching terminal at Anand Vihar

3530. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that development of Coaching Terminal at Anand Vihar is included in the work programme for 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with facilities proposed and cost worked out for the project;

(c) whether Government have taken the precautions not to shift existing platforms for EMUs in the name of planning procedure/technical ground while sanctioning the above project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and proposed location of new platforms to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir. However, a proposal has been received from Northern Railway for inclusion of the work in the Works Programme 2001-2002. A final decision on the proposal will be taken at the time of preparation of Budget for the year 2001-2002.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Detailed plans for facilities at Anand Vihar are yet to be drawn up. However, all aspects including operational feasibility, convenience of the existing commuters and that of the users of the proposed facilities and availability of resources including land will be kept in view while developing plans for the coaching terminal at Anand Vihar.

Retention of Bungalows by Retiring Railway Officials

3531. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal has been cleared by the Railway Board, in its meeting held on 27th July, 2000, that the top Railway officials will continue to occupy their plush official bungalows even after they retire;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto and the consequential effects thereof on other services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Dipu-Karrong Rail Line

3532. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the budget proposal for construction of Rail line from Dipu to Karrong in Imphal is not properly reflected;

(b) if so, by when it will be completed; and

(c) what are the main obstacles to take up this line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No target date has yet been fixed.

(c) The project is under review due to opposition by the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council and a suggestion from the Chief Minister of Manipal to